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# Weekly Summary

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May 27, 1977

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## CHILE

The Chilean government is reverting to the repressive practices that have jeopardized its international standing since the 1973 military intervention. Reports of gross violations of human rights in Chile had nearly ceased since the beginning of the year but are once again on the rise.

This backsliding comes at a particularly bad time for Chile. A number of Western governments were beginning to acknowledge improvement in the Chilean human rights situation, and the boycott issue was beginning to fade.

Chile's National Intelligence Directorate is apparently behind the recent upsurge in torture, illegal detentions, and unexplained "disappearances." The Directorate's chief is a close confidant of President Pinochet, however, and he is unlikely to act without the President's knowledge. Pinochet himself stated this week that the emergency measures in effect under the state of siege will be enforced as long as necessary "to repress drastically any attempt that might become a threat to internal security or domestic peace."

The directorate's detention facility at Cuatro Alamos is said to be in operation again. This site was largely abandoned after a decree in January 1976 empowered the Supreme Court president and the interior minister to inspect—without prior notice—areas suspected of being used for torture.

Most of the targets appear to be Socialists, but some Communists and Christian Democrats are also included. A campaign against leaders of the Communist Party last year largely immobilized that organization, and the security services are apparently turning to other opponents. [REDACTED]

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